the country particularly in Haryana as the project was started in previous Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government are aware of the colossal loss to the farmers due to attaining a huge growth of Eucalyptus plants which affected crops of the farmers;

(c) whether Government are aware of the ecology and environment experts' opinion that this plant is not fit for road side, cropped area, and canal courses;

(d) whether the financial loss has been incurred by the farmers as well as the State of Haryana as a result of the plantation;

(e) how much funds were swandled away due to this project; and

(f) whether the farmers have been provided any compensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir. No project under the name Eucalyptus Plantation Project has been implemented during the previous Five Year Plan.

(b) No information regarding colossal loss to the farmers due to attaining a huge growth of eucalyptus plants which affected crops of the farmers has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) Research work undertaken in this respect has established that there is no positive evidence that Eucalyptus is not fit for road side, cropped area and canal courses.

(d) State Government of Haryana has informed that there has been no financial loss to the farmers in the Haryana State.

(e) No project under the name Eucalyptus plantation project has been implemented during the previous five year plan and thus question of swindling does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

Depredation of forest land

634. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the gradual depredation of forest land during the years 1991, 1992 and in 1993;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to arrest it and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Assessment of the forest cover of the country is done once in two years on the basis of visual inter-pretation of satellite imagery. The latest assessment, documented in the State of Forest Report, 1991 by the Forest Survey of India indicates that there has been a net increase of 560 sq. kms. in the forest cover of the country as compared to the earlier assessment as documented in the State of Forest Report 1989.

(b) and (c) The increase registered in the forest cover is on account of a number of steps taken by the Government. These include improved protection measures, conservation and development of forests, rehabilitation of degraded forests, social forestry schemes, participatory forest management programmes etc. These activities continue to get increased attention from the Government.

Decrease in tiger population

635. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tiger population has considerably decreased as per census conducted by the Forest Department and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what are the reasons therefor and what steps have been taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The field work for All India Tiger Census was undertaken by the State Governments during the year 1993. The data so far collected are being analysed to arrive at population estimates. The reports from a large number of States have not yet been received.

Closure of industries causing water pollution

636. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey of Western Yamuna Canal to identity the source of pollution of water and to assess the water quality of Haiderpur Water Works if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of industries which are causing major pollution to the water;

(b) whether any of the industry has been ordered to be closed down and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board has carried out survey of the Western Yamuna Canal from Haiderpur Water Works to Tajewala Head Works. According to their report, seven industries, namely, Ballarpur Industries Ltd., Sarasvati Sugar Mills, India Sugar Mills, Panipat Sugar Mill, Distillary at Panipat, Haryana Distillery and Chandpur Board Mills are discharging their waste waters into this cannal.

Haryana Pollution Control Board has been asked to take necessary action against the defaulting industries and also to restrain them from discharging the waste waters into the Western Yamuna Canal.

Safeguard of Indian Community in Kenya

637. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has taken up with the Kenyan Government the issue of growing attacks on Members of Indian community in Nairobi and other States of East-African Nations;

(b) if so, whether there had been repeated attacks on business community of India residing in Nairobi;

(c) if so, what action the Kenyan Government has taken thereon; and

(d) to what extent Kenya has assured to take all measures to safeguard the Indian community;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d) Attacks on some members of the Indian community in Kenya have come to notice. However, no such incidents in other East African States have been reported.

The Government of India had taken up the matter with the Government of Kenya which gave assurance of all possible help to safeguard the Indian community. No further attacks have since been reported.

Pakistan's nuclear capability

638. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment about Pakistan's capability to prepare nuclear bombs has lately been made by Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof in terms of material, and technology available with Pakistan and the number